

10 Tips To Improve Air Quality

Tip 1: Limit Your Driving

- Avoid driving during peak traffic periods when stop-and-go traffic is at its worst.
- Try not to drive at all, especially during the morning and early afternoon.
- Plan ahead, organize your trips. Combine several errands into one trip.
- Consider other commuting options, such as public transit, ride-sharing, and tele-working at home.

Tip 2: Drive Emission Wise

- If you must drive, use the least polluting of your vehicles.
- Where available, use clean fuels, avoid excessive idling, and areas of congestion.
- Stop and start evenly.
- Drive at a steady speed. Drive at medium speeds. Use your air conditioner wisely.
- Travel light.
- Consider fuel efficiency and emissions when buying a new car.

Tip 3: Refuel Carefully

- Refuel after 6:00 PM, if possible.
- Avoid spills and don't try to top off your tank.

Tip 4: Maintain Your Vehicle

- Engine performance, emission control systems, and tire inflation are important.
- Don't remove or tamper with pollution controls. Comply with the local auto inspection and emissions testing program.
- Follow your owner's manual.
- Get regular engine tune-ups and car maintenance checks.
- Use an energy-conserving



grade of motor oil. An EC multi-grade can improve your mileage by as much as 15 percent.

Tip 5: Live Emission Wise

- Buy low emission household products.
- Buy electric or fuel-efficient motorized equipment.
- Conserve electricity.
- Avoid spilling gas when refueling gasoline-powered lawn, garden, farm, and construction equipment and boats.
- Properly dispose of household paints solvents, and pesticides.
- Seal containers tightly.
- Reduce waste.

Tip 6: Delay or Reschedule Lawncare

- Reschedule or delay lawn care employing gas-powered equipment until after 6:00 PM. An old 2-cycle gas-powered lawnmower produces as much pollution when it is operating as 70 new cars.

Tip 7: Postpone Oil-Based Paint and Solvent Use

- Where possible, use aqueous (water) based products.
- Avoid oil-based paint and solvent use on days when

elevated ozone levels are expected.

Tip 8: Barbecue with Electric or Chimney Starters

- Avoid the use of lighter fluid, since it vaporizes into the air and can contribute to ozone formation. Your food will also taste better.

Tip 9: Conserve Energy in Your Home

- Conserving electricity reduces air pollution.
- Purchase energy efficient heating and air-conditioning systems.
- Purchase energy efficient appliances.
- Make sure your home is well insulated.
- Be mindful of energy conservation when you set your thermostat.
- Purchase energy efficient lighting.
- Purchase Energy Star labeled office equipment. Each year, enough electricity can be saved by using Energy Star labeled office equipment in a single home office (with a computer, printer, and fax) to light an entire home for more than 2 years.
- Where available, participate in your local energy conservation programs.

Tip 10: Spread the Word

- Learn about local efforts and issues.
- Learn what you can do to help clear the air.
- Share what you learn.
- Let people know you care.
- Join a community group that is working to improve air quality.